

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BANGKO 16675 181214Z

47

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-05 IO-04 JUSE-00 NSAE-00

RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-04 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 SCI-02

OMB-01 DRC-01 /042 W

----- 034995

R 181050Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7721

INFO AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

DEA HQS WASHDC

S E C R E T BANGKOK 16675

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, TH

SUBJ: TRENDS IN NARCOTICS SEIZURES

REF: FTC-0029

1. THIS MESSAGE DRAWS YOUR ATTENTION TO THE SEIZURE OCTOBER 17 BY BORDER PATROL POLICE (BPP) OF 1118 KILOGRAMS OF RAW OPIUM NEAR BAN SAM TAO (MB 7257), AKA KHAI LY SO, FROM A CARAVAN COMPOSED OF 20 HORSES. DETAILS ARE PROVIDED IN THE REFERENCE.

2. WHILE THIS SEIZURE IS SIGNIFICANT FOR ITS SIZE ALONE, IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT THE BPP MADE THIS SEIZURE ACTING COMPLETELY ON ITS OWN INITIATIVE AND INTELLIGENCE.

3. BAN SAM TAO IS TYPICAL OF A NUMBER OF TRAFFICKING CROSS-ROADS NOW BEING WATCHED BY THE BPP THROUGH ITS NEWLY-INSTALLED SYSTEM OF NARCOTIC INTEL UNITS. IT IS ENCOURAGING NOT ONLY THAT THE RTG THROUGH THE BPP IS MAKING THE EFFORT TO MAN THESE POOR AND ISOLATED VILLAGES WHERE LIFE IS RIGOROUS AND UNAPPEALING, BUT THAT THIS BPP GARRISON IN SAM TAO HAS MADE THIS LARGE SEIZURE IN FACE OF TEMPTATIONS WHICH ASSUREDLY

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 BANGKO 16675 181214Z

EXIST TO COLLABORATE WITH THE TRAFFICKING SYNDICATES.

4. THE LARGE SEIZURES OF 1973 WERE MADE LARGELY ON THE BASIS OF US-SUPPLIED INFORMATION. THIS HAUL REPRESENTS THE FIRST SIGNIFICANT RESULTS OBTAINED FROM THE STATIONING EARLIER THIS YEAR OF SEVERAL SMALL BPP NARCOTICS INTELLIGENCE UNITS AT STRATEGIC TRAFFICKING CROSS-ROADS NEAR THE BURMA BORDER. BEFORE THESE UNITS WERE IN PLACE, ALMOST THE ENTIRE SECURITY AND NARCOTICS PATROLLING RESPONSIBILITY ALONG A 60-MILE STRETCH OF BORDER IN THE NORTH-WEST CORNER OF CHIANG MAI PROVINCE (PIANG LUANG EAST TO THAM NGOB) FELL ON A 46-MAN BPP PLATOON BASED AT MUANG POK. IN PRACTICE THIS PLATOON WAS GENERALLY AWARE OF TRAFFICKING THROUGH ITS DOMAIN BUT FELT IT HAD ITS HANDS FULL MERELY SURVIVING IN AN AREA WHERE IT WAS OUTNUMBERED AND OUTGUNNED BY FREE-BOOTERS OF MANY STRIPES, PRIMARILY ARMED BURMESE OR KACHIN DISSIDENT GROUPS, REMMANTS OF THE OLD CHINESE NATIONALIST 93RF YUNNANESE ARMY AND BANDITS.

5. WE NOTE ALSO THAT SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER HAVE BEEN GOOD MONTHS FOR THE RTG SPECIAL NARCOTICS ORGANIZATION, ACTING IN SOME CASES ON THAI-ORIGINATED INTELLIGENCE. (JULY-SEPTEMBER DEVELOPMENTS WILL BE COVERED IN THE MISSION NARCOTICS QUARTERLY DISSEMINATED NEXT WEEK). REFINERIES HAVE BEEN PARTICULARLY HARD HIT WITH THREE IMOBILIZED BY SNO AND BPP RAIDS SINCE MID-SEPTEMBER. TWO OF THE REFINERIES WERE SMALL, MOBILE EASY-TO-ASSEMBLE LABORATORIES CAPABLE OF PRODUCING FROM FIVE TO TEN KILOGRAMS AT A TIME. ONE WAS FOUND IN A HUT, ANOTHER IN A CAVE. THE THIRD REFINERY WAS LOCATED IN A THREE-HUT COMPOUND, WELL GUARDED AND STOCKED WITH CHEMICALS. THE REFINERY WAS ACTIVELY PRODUCING HEROIN #4. APPROXIMATELY 200 LITERS OF A LIQUID PRODUCT, BELIEVED TO BE HEROIN BASE, WAS SEIZED ALONG WITH ASSORTED CHEMICALS AND EQUIPMENT.

6. IN ADDITION TO THESE THREE REFINERIES, SNO FORCES MOUNTED FOUR OTHER OPERATIONS DURING MID-SEPTEMBER TO MID-OCTOBER, WHICH NETTED EIGHT DEFENDANTS AND THE SEIZURE OF 3.6 KILOGRAMS OF HEROIN #4, 36.0 KILOGRAMS OF RAW OPIUM, AND 6.0 KILOGRAMS OF PITZU (IMPURE HEROIN BASE).  
KINTNER

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** OPIUM, DRUG SEIZURES, POLICE INVESTIGATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 18 OCT 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** shawdg  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974BANGKO16675  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740297-0254  
**From:** BANGKOK  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19741037/aaaabffm.tel  
**Line Count:** 99  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** FTC-0029  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** shawdg  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 10 JUL 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <10 JUL 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <19 MAR 2003 by shawdg>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** TRENDS IN NARCOTICS SEIZURES  
**TAGS:** SNAR, TH  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005